

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJ: MEETING WITH DUTCH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

DEA HQS PASS FOR INFO: ADMINISTRATOR BENSINGER;
CASEY/EN/LEAMY/TRI/FINK/IG AND JUDGE/PA FROM RD ADDARIO

1. ON 1-10-77, MEMBERS OF THE BRO PARTICIPATED IN A MEETING WITH
THE DUTCH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF JUSTICE, HIS EX-
CELLENCY ANDREAS VAN AGT, PER INVITATION OF DUTCH AMBASSADOR VAN DONGE

THROUGH U.S. AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE AT THE
DUTCH AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND WAS ATTENDED BY DUTCH POLICE
DIRECTOR GENERAL, DR. A.G. FONTEYN; THE HONG KONG NARCOTICS ATTACHE;
THE CANADIAN NARCOTICS ATTACHE; AND OTHER BELGIAN AND DUTCH
EMBASSY OFFICIALS.

2. THE GROUP EXTENDED A WELCOME TO THE DUTCH DEPUTY PRIME
MINISTER AND DR. FONTEYN FOR THEIR COMING TO THAILAND WITH
THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF COORDINATING ENFORCEMENT EFFORT DIRECTED
AT THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTICS FROM THAILAND TO
THE NETHERLANDS AND THAT ALL IN ATTENDANCE APPRECIATED THE CONCERN
OF OTHER COUNTRIES AND THEIR WILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
INTERNATIONAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORT. MR. VAN AGT WAS TOLD THAT THE
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FUTURE ASSIGNMENT OF A DUTCH NARCOTICS ATTACHE TO THAILAND TO WORK
WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT WAS ESPECIALLY SIGNI-
FICANT AS IT EMPHASIZES THE INTERNATIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF SOUTHEAST
ASIA-PRODUCED NARCOTICS.

3. REGION 16 RIU PERSONNEL PRESENTED A BRIEFING ON THE
ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS BY NARCOTICS POLICE AND CUSTOMS INSPECTORS

IN THAILAND, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE AND HONG KONG. THE BRIEFING REFLECTED

THE TRENDS IN NARCOTICS SEIZURES, LABORATORY DESTRUCTIONS AND NUMBER OF DRUG ARRESTS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEAR PERIOD. ALSO DISCUSSED WAS THE INCREASED EFFICIENCY OF LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AS WELL AS AN OVERVIEW OF THE VARIETY OF BI-LATERAL NARCOTIC INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS.

4. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER VAN AGT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE BRIEFING AND COMMENDED THE VARIOUS AGENCIES IN ATTENDANCE FOR THEIR NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS. HE STATED AMSTERDAM HAS THE REPUTATION OF BEING EUROPE'S MAJOR DRUG TRANSSHIPMENT CENTER AND THAT HIS COUNTRY IS ATTEMPTING TO CHANGE THIS TRAFFICKING PATTERN. HE PREDICTED THAT COPENHAGEN WOULD BECOME EUROPE'S NEXT MAJOR TRANSSHIPMENT CENTER ONCE AMSTERDAM COMES UNDER CONTROL. THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ALSO STATED HIS NARCOTICS ATTACHE WOULD ARRIVE IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, AND HE WAS ASSURED THAT HIS REPRESENTATIVE WOULD RECEIVE FULL COOPERATION FROM NOT ONLY FROM FOREIGN AGENCIES BUT LOCAL AUTHORITIES AS WELL.

5. THE HONG KONG REPRESENTATIVES TOLD MR. VAN AGT THAT HE REPRESENTS THE FIRST EUROPEAN NATION TO TAKE A POSITIVE STEP IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD TO STOP DRUG TRAFFICKING, AND THE CANADIAN ATTACHE REPLIED THAT SINCE THE PROBLEM INVOLVES SEVERAL NATIONS, DEA SHOULD NOT BE THE ONLY AGENCY INVOLVED IN COORDINATING AND CURTAILING THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING OF NARCOTICS.

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6. DURING HIS STAY IN THAILAND, PRIME MINISTER VAN AGT HAS HAD AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING, CONFERENCES WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND POLICE OFFICIALS, AND A VIEW OF CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS IN NORTHERN THAILAND. EXTENSIVE PRESS COVERAGE OF HIS VISIT TO THAILAND HAS APPEARED IN LOCAL ENGLISH AND THAI MEDIA.
WHITEHOUSE

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